

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re PATENT application of:

Takahiro HIRAOKA et al.

Serial No. 10/014,453

Filed: 12/14/2001

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Art Unit: 2622

Examiner: Unassigned

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In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, it is requested that the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record in the above-identified application. Copies of the references are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), it is certified that either (1) each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement, or (2) no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application and no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/014,453
		Filing Date	December 14, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Takahiro HIRAOKA et al.
		Group Art Unit	2622
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket Number	740145-218

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,384,456		Saika et al.	01-24-1995	

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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ² (if known)				
			WO 00/70918		M. ISOHATA	11-23-2000		
			DE 199 56 274		S. KLUNKER et al.	05-31-2000		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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		European Search Report, Application No. 01129849.4-1241, Dated April 3, 2002.	

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